STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO BAY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

THIRTY VAN NESS AVENUE, SUITE 2011 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102-6080 PHONE: (415) 557-3686

August 17, 1993

Margit Aramburu Executive Director Delta Protection Commission 14219 River Road Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Subject:

Delta Protection Agency LTMS Program Briefing

Dear Ms. Aramburu:

Thank you for inviting me to brief your Commission on the Long Term Management Strategy (LTMS) Program for dredged material disposal, at the September meeting. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss the program and its relevance to Delta protection. As you know, the LTMS will result in a management plan for the dredging and disposal of material from SF Bay. I believe that the LTMS is important to the Delta, both as a potential model for resolving contentious issues, and, more directly, because the LTMS may involve use of dredged material in the Delta.

The plan will assess use of potential and existing disposal sites in the Bay and the ocean. However, the plan will also address potential use of dredged material as a resource to non-tidal areas surrounding the Bay and in the Delta. These uses could include bolstering levees, restoring and/or creating wetlands, and capping and lining material in existing landfills. Due to the serious problems of repairing and maintaining the Delta levees, there appears to be significant potential for using material dredged from the Bay for this purpose. The greatest problem for such a beneficial use appears to be the potential for water quality concerns due to the salt content and any contaminants contained in Bay material. Several small pilot projects have already been performed that are intended to both demonstrate the utility of Bay dredged material and to help assess the potential for water quality impacts.

Environmental review will also be prepared for the LTMS program and I have enclosed a copy of the scoping document that has been recently circulated. It is important that we receive broad input to help scope preparation of the EIS/EIR, so I would appreciate it if you could mention the LTMS program and the scoping document to your Commission at this month's meeting.

The EIS/EIR to be prepared for the LTMS will be a programmatic policy document, so it will not address the precise impacts of specific projects. However, it will address the potential benefits and adverse impacts of the use of dredged material in the

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Delta. It therefore should be an ideal vehicle to air and address any concerns regarding the LTMS program and the potential use of dredged material in the Delta

Sincerely,

STEVEN GOLDBECK Coastal Program Manager

enclosure